

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 114  
By Turner L

A RESOLUTION to designate Saturday, March 8, 2003, as  
"Gwinnett County Alumnae Chapter of Delta  
Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated Day" in  
Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected Representatives of the State of Tennessee  
should recognize citizens who are celebrating milestones in their venerable lives; and

WHEREAS, the spirit and imagination of twenty-two college women led to the founding  
of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, on January 13, 1913, at Howard University in  
Washington, D.C.; and

WHEREAS, the founders were sustained by the bonds of sisterhood; and

WHEREAS, the sorority has adopted cohesive traditions and programmatic initiatives  
that enhance and embody its beliefs and values; and

WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, is a public service organization  
targeting Educational Development, Economic Development, Physical and Mental Health,  
Political Awareness and Involvement, and International Awareness and Involvement; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the new chapter is to empower Gwinnett County citizens with a comprehensive approach to community involvement and social development through Delta's Five Point Thrust; and

WHEREAS, in keeping with your noble heritage, you stand ready to provide service and support to Gwinnett County, lead the dialogue on public policy issues, promote quality education, create positive opportunities for the development of our youth, and produce new projects to stimulate current and future economic growth; and

WHEREAS, members of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., provide a base upon which our communities can grow and prosper and have made significant contributions to progress and growth across the globe; and

WHEREAS, the challenges and successes of the first ninety years inspire over two hundred thousand members today; and

WHEREAS, the Gwinnett chapter will join the more than 950 chapters across the United States, including Alaska and Hawaii, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Germany, London, Seoul, Tokyo, Okinawa, St. Thomas, and St. Croix with an enviable record of accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the chapters of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, have made significant contributions to the progress and growth of the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta is shaped to its purpose, that of forming a closer union among college women for the fostering of high ideals in moral, social, and intellectual life; and

WHEREAS, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, by its own expressed ideals, accepts an active responsibility for the betterment of the society in which it exists; and

WHEREAS, two Memphians are among the 117 charter members approved by Grand Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated; and

WHEREAS, the President of the chapter will be Thelona Manning, a former 25-year resident of Memphis, Tennessee, and a graduate of Fisk University and the University of Memphis, inspired by her friend in Christ, James N. Steele, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, the First Vice-President of the chapter will be Candace Mathews Medlin, a native of Memphis, Tennessee, and a graduate of the University of Memphis and Christian Brothers College, motivated by her loving husband, Ronald Medlin, and son, Stevenson R. Medlin; and

WHEREAS, the steering committee members, Sonja Cooke, Pamela Crenshaw, Philippi Lawal, Thelona Manning, Candace Medlin, Samela Reid, Erma Warmack, and Hazel White, worked tirelessly for twenty-two months to make this dream a reality; and

WHEREAS, the initial officers will be: Thelona Manning, President; Candace Medlin, First Vice-President; Hazel White, Second Vice-President; Pamela Crenshaw, Recording Secretary; Sonja Cooke, Corresponding Secretary; Erma Warmack, Financial Secretary; Karren Grant, Treasurer; Philippi Lawal, Parliamentarian; Jacqueline Gray-Thomas, Assistant Parliamentarian; Samela Reid, Sergeant-at-Arms; Annie Davis, Chaplain; Rita Flowers, Custodian of Properties; Cecilia Carmichael, Historian/Archivist; and Robelyn McNair, Journalist/Publicist; and

WHEREAS, the Southern Regional Director, Dr. Paulette C. Walker, will officiate the ceremony along with the Georgia State Coordinator, Dr. Ann D. Jones, chartering the Gwinnett County Alumnae Chapter as the two-hundredth chapter in the region; and

WHEREAS, as the chartering celebration approaches, the members of this Body find it appropriate to pause in their deliberations to recognize this special group of women; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby designate Saturday, March 8, 2003, as the "Gwinnett County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated Day" in honor of our Tennessee daughters, Ms. Manning and Mrs. Medlin. We convey to the chapter our very best wishes for success in all their public service endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.